GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:817
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2000
SUSTAINABLE POWER
SAHIB SINGH VERMA

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the main points which are likely to help the power generating plants to keep them environmentally fit specially in case of Thermal Power Plants and Nuclear Power Plants;

(b) the physical and financial dimensions of these main points;

(c) whether the government propose to keep 5% cost of such project for environment protection and afforestation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) to (c): The following points need to be kept in view for establishment and operation of thermal and nuclear power plants in order to keep them environmentally fit :-

(A) COMMON (Nuclear and thermal power plants)

(i) Proper selection of the site by avoiding proximity to National Parks, Biosphere Reserves, Sanctuaries, National Monuments and ecologically sensitive areas;

(ii) Preparation of adequate environmental management plans in accordance with statutory obligations for minimising environmental impact;

(iii) Treatment of waste water and its utilisation within power stations as far as possible.

(iv) Proper Implementation of duly approved and updated onsite and offsite emergency preparedness plans;

(v) Proper implementation of environmental safeguard measures along with regular monitoring and surveillance.

(B) THERMAL POWER PLANTS:

(i) Selection of cleaner technologies (IGCC & CFBC, etc.)

(ii) Use of clean fuels such as beneficiated coal to reduce sulphar/ash content, LNG Naphtha etc.

(iii) Full utilisation of fly ash in a phased manner.

(iv) Air pollution control measures like installation of electrostatic precipitator, Tall Stack, Space for FGD, Dust extraction and suppression system, Green belt development and afforestation etc.

(C) NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS:

(i) Limit the release of radio active liquid and gaseous emissions within the prescribed norms;

(ii) Disposal of radio active wastes to identify sites in special packages; and

(iii) Radiation safety in handling storage and transportation.

The cost of implementation of environmental protection measures is included in the total cost of the project. In case of NTPC projects, the cost of environmental measures provided in the project cost estimates ranges between 7-8% of the project cost for coal based projects and 3-4% for gas based power projects.